

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PA-01
PRS-01 USIE-00 /032 W

-----031930Z 007874 /53

O R 031911Z MAR 77 ZFF 4

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0248

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06354

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US

SUBJ: CIVAIR: PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS ON CONCORDE

1. ROBERT BALLANGER, HEAD OF COMMUNIST GROUP IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PHONED EMBASSY EARLY AFTERNOON MARCH 3 TO SOLICIT APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR FOR MONDAY, MARCH 7, TO DISCUSS CONCORDE. BALLANGER SAID HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY ANOTHER COMMUNIST MEMBER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, GUSTAVE ANSART; RENE PIQUET, PCF POLITBURO MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPAGANDA; AND "TWO COMRADES FROM TOULOUSE." BALLANGER SAID GROUP PROPOSED PRESENT AMBASSADOR WITH PETITION IN SUPPORT OF CONCORDE. (COMMENT: "PETITION" COULD BE RESULTS OF WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY PARTY NEWSPAPER L'HUMANITE AS REPORTED PARIS 6197.)

2. WE APPRISED ELYSEE INFORMALLY OF BALLANGER REQUEST, INDICATING THAT DELEGATION WOULD BE RECEIVED.

3. LATER IN AFTERNOON WE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM PIERRE BAUDIS, INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN DEPUTY AND
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MAYOR OF TOULOUSE, WHO INFORMED US HE HAD JUST BEEN ADVISED BY ELYSEE OF COMMUNISTS' REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR. BAUDIS SAID THAT HE HOPED AMBASSADOR WOULD BE AGREEABLE ALSO RECEIVE DELEGATION COMPRISED OF HIMSELF; CLAUDE LABBE, HEAD OF RPR GROUP IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; PLUS ONE OTHER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEMBER FROM THE CENTER.

BAUDIS SAID THAT FOR OBVIOUS POLITICAL REASONS HE HOPED AMBASSADOR WOULD BE AGREEABLE RECEIVE HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN ADVANCE OF THE COMMUNIST GROUP.

4. APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED FOR AMBASSADOR TO RECEIVE BAUDIS AND HIS COLLEAGUES AT 10 A.M. MARCH 7 AND COMMUNIST GROUP AT 11:15 A.M.

5. COMMENT: THE COMMUNIST DEMARCHE, MORE THAN THE BELATED REACTION OF THE COMPANION DEMARCHE BY THE MAJORITY PARTIES, DEMONSTRATED, IF NEED THERE WAS, HOW EXPLOSIVE A DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUE CONCORDE IS BECOMING FOR THE GOF. A NEGATIVE DECISION BY NEW YORK ONLY THREE DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST ROUND OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WOULD BE A SERIOUS BLOW TO THE GOF, AND LEFT CANDIDATES WOULD CERTAINLY HOPE TO BENEFIT FROM THE BACKLASH. THE ELYSEE'S CHOICE OF BAUDIS TO HEAD THE MAJORITY DELAGATION MAKING THE DEMARCHE AT THE EMBASSY IS IN ITSELF REVEALING IN THIS REGARD, FOR BAUDIS IS THE MAYOR OF TOULOUSE WHERE THE SOCIALISTS ARE HOPEFUL OF THEIR CHANCES TO RETURN TO POWER. UNTIL NOW THE ARGUEMENT HAS BEEN THAT WITH CONCORDE RIDE THE HOPES OF THE FUTURE OF THE FRENCH AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY; FOR THE GOF AND THE MAJORITY PARTIES TODAY, CONCORDE AS AN ISSUE ASSUMES A NEW AND DANGEROUS DIMENSION IN THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN FRANCE. CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, MEETINGS, AMBASSADORS, CONCORDE, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIRPORTS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS06354
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770073-1031
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770397/aaaadhkp.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3219368
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS ON CONCORDE
TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb0b38be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009